

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 28 and 31 as follows:

Sub
FI

E2

--28. (Twice amended) A method for corrosion-proofing a metal substrate, comprising:

applying a bond coating to the substrate, the bond coating comprising at least one organic adhesion-conferring polymer consists essentially of at least one polybismaleimide selected from the group consisting of: (i) a homopolymer comprising a bismaleimide, (ii) a homopolymer comprising a maleimide-terminated oligomer, (iii) a homopolymer comprising a maleimide-terminated polymer, (iv) a copolymer comprising a bismaleimide, (v) a copolymer comprising a maleimide-terminated oligomer, and (vi) a copolymer comprising a maleimide-terminated polymer wherein the coating is applied from an aqueous solution, an organic solvent solution, a dispersion or an emulsion; and

subsequently stabilizing the bond coating on the substrate surface.

Sub
FI

E2

2a 31. (Thrice amended) A method for corrosion-proofing a metal substrate, comprising:

(a) cleaning and de-greasing a substrate,

(b) applying a bond coating to the substrate, the bond coating comprising at least one organic adhesion-conferring polymer consists essentially of at least one polybismaleimide selected from the group consisting of: (i) a homopolymer comprising a bismaleimide, (ii) a homopolymer comprising a